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# Kinsolving Defends S. Africa Payment

Associated Press

A clergyman-journalist said yesterday he accepted payment from attorneys for the South African government to attend stockholders' meetings, but insisted he was given no direction what to do or say.

The Rev. Lester Kinsolving appeared at an unusual hearing by the Standing Committee of Correspondents, which, under the authority of

Congress, administers credentials for reporters who use the facilities of the House and Senate press galleries.

The committee of journalists called the hearing after some gallery members suggested that Kinsolving's status should be looked into before his credentials were renewed. House and Senate rules bar use of the galleries by persons engaged in lobbying, advertising or paid promotional activities.

Kinsolving, a syndicated columnist and an Episcopal priest, said his activities did not fall into any of these categories. He said that after he had broadcast editorials critical of the National Council of Churches for what he called hypocrisy in African matters, he was approached by a member of a Washington law firm representing South Africa.

He said he agreed to attend meetings of stockholders where National Council representatives had organized protests against companies dealing with South Africa.

The law firm bought shares of stock for him to qualify him to attend, he said, and allowed him to retain the stock and sell it after the meetings. The shares were charged to the South Africans. In all, Kinsolving said, he attended 13 meetings and received stock worth about \$2,500, which he said was equivalent to his ordinary lecture fees.

Kinsolving agreed that his views about the National Council were well known, but he insisted that he was given no instructions as to what to say at the meetings. He said that on occasion he made remarks critical of the council, but that he never supported the racial policies of South Africa.

"I had no instructions as to what I would say, write or broadcast," he said. "None. I would have been insulted if there had been any."

Kinsolving indicated under questioning that he would consider discontinuing such activities if the Standing Committee ruled them improper, but said he was retaining all rights of appeal.

The committee promised a quick disposition of the case, but set no date for another meeting.

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